

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 91

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor Northern State University Head Coach Don Meyer on becoming the winningest coach in NCAA men's basketball history.

WHEREAS, the citizens of this great State and their elected representatives are extremely proud to honor one of the most accomplished and renowned coaches in collegiate basketball; and

WHEREAS, Northern State University Head Coach Don Meyer recently achieved coaching immortality in becoming the winningest coach in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) men's basketball history; and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2009, Coach Meyer passed coaching legend Bobby Knight by tallying his 903rd victory when Northern State University defeated University of Mary by a score of 82-62; and

WHEREAS, more than 6,600 fans and players alike celebrated the historic event during the post-game celebration, which included a congratulatory video from legendary UCLA coach, John Wooden; and

WHEREAS, after thirty-seven illustrious seasons, no coach in the history of men's NCAA basketball has cast such an extraordinary presence over the game of basketball as has Coach Meyer; and

WHEREAS, his winning percentage of .750 and career record of 903-301, was compiled at three universities; beginning his craft in 1972 at Hamline University, he accrued a 37-41 record; he then spent twenty-four distinguished seasons at Lipscomb University in Nashville, where he amassed a remarkable record of 665-179, including a National Association of

Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national championship in 1986; since taking the head coaching job at Northern State University, he has amassed an outstanding 201-81 record; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as head coach of the Northern State University Wolves basketball team, Coach Meyer has notched seven straight twenty-win seasons, a Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) co-championship in 2002, the first ever NSIC tournament championship for the Wolves in 2003-2004, and was named NSIC Coach of the Year following the 2001-2002 season; and

WHEREAS, prior to coaching at Northern State University, Coach Meyer guided the Lipscomb University mens' basketball team to thirteen national tournament appearances, spent ten seasons in a row averaging more than thirty-two wins per season, setting a college basketball record in 1989-1990 by winning forty-one games over one season, winning the NAIA national championship in 1986, being named NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990, and was selected to the NAIA Hall of Fame at the age of forty-seven; and

WHEREAS, Coach Meyer has established himself as one of the preeminent figures in men's basketball, and basketball purists throughout the country have proclaimed his fundamental coaching system to be a proven winner; and

WHEREAS, well respected nationally in the coaching ranks, Coach Meyer is a highly sought-after motivational speaker who has produced several instructional books and a hallmark educational tape series, "Building a Championship Program," which is designed to help basketball teams at all levels of competition; over 10,000 coaches from around the country have attended the Don Meyer Coaches Academy seeking advice and lessons from one of the most acclaimed and definitive coaches in basketball, and his famous summer basketball camps have made an impact on thousands of young basketball players throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, perhaps the most fitting compliment Coach Meyer has received comes from the records his former players have amassed; Coach Meyer's system has produced three National Players of the Year and twenty-two All-Americans, and college basketball's first and second all-time leading scorers, John Pierce and Philip Hutcheson, are former players of Coach Meyer; and

WHEREAS, his momentous achievements aside, Coach Meyer is most proud of the love and support he shares with his wife, Carmen; their son, Jerry; and their daughters, Brooke and Brittney; and

WHEREAS, this assembled group of state legislators is especially proud to pause in its deliberations to recognize this esteemed man and his extraordinary coaching accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Northern State University Head Coach Don Meyer on becoming the men's all-time coaching career win leader in NCAA basketball history, applaud him for his vaunted level of success and his dedication to excellence both on and off the court and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success, both personally and professionally.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.